



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

FEB 25 2016

OFFICE OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

The Honorable James M. Inhofe  
Chairman  
Committee on Environment and Public Works  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

Thank you for your letter of February 2, 2016, to Administrator Gina McCarthy regarding the Environmental Protection Agency's process for selecting members of the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee (CASAC).

Your letter expressed a number of concerns about the process by which the EPA appointed the most recent members of the CASAC, and asked for additional details about how these members were chosen. We appreciate the opportunity to explain how we made these appointments and to assure you that the agency followed the applicable requirements and procedures in selecting members of the CASAC.

In making these appointments, the EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) Staff Office implemented the policies and procedures developed by the EPA Office of Diversity, Advisory Committee Management and Outreach (ODACMO) (described in the EPA Federal Advisory Committee Handbook, March 2012) for the CASAC annual membership process. A Federal Register (FR) notice was published on April 2, 2015, (80 FR 17743) soliciting nominations for the CASAC annual membership. The FR notice stated that the SAB Staff Office was seeking nominations of experts who had demonstrated experience in the following disciplines related to air pollution: ecological and welfare effects; environmental engineering; exposure assessment; biostatistics; toxicology; epidemiology; and/or risk assessment.

As stated in the FR notice, the selection criteria for membership included: demonstrated scientific credentials and disciplinary expertise in relevant fields; willingness to commit time to the committee and demonstrated ability to work constructively and effectively on committees; background and experiences that would help members contribute to the diversity of perspectives on the committee (e.g., geographic, economic, social, cultural, educational backgrounds, professional affiliations, and other considerations); and for the committee as a whole, consideration of the collective breadth and depth of scientific expertise and a balance of scientific perspectives. Diversity of perspectives is only one of the selection criteria and geography is only one aspect of diversity of perspectives. In order to seek out a diversity of perspectives, the SAB Staff Office developed and implemented an outreach plan, with



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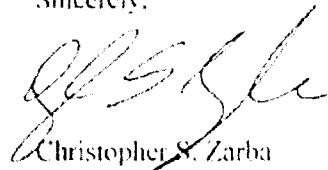
concurrence from ODACMO. The SAB Staff Office reached out to over 150 professional associations, interest groups, non-governmental organizations, states and tribes, and historically black colleges and universities to identify a diverse pool of nominees.

Enclosure 1 provides a list of all individuals who were nominated, including those nominated by the public in response to the solicitation of nominations. All nominated individuals were contacted to determine their interest in being a candidate and to collect the information requested in the FR notice (biosketch and curricula vitae). Nominees that were qualified and interested in being a candidate for CASAC membership were placed on a List of Candidates. Although the EPA Federal Advisory Committee Handbook does not require solicitation of public comments on a List of Candidates, the SAB Staff Office made available the List of Candidates for public comment (on May 20, 2015). As detailed in the April 2, 2015, FR notice, the List of Candidates was made available on the CASAC website. In addition to being available on the CASAC website, the List of Candidates also appeared in the CASAC's Recent Happenings RSS news feed. Public comments received on the List of Candidates are provided in enclosure 2.

The SAB Staff Office made recommendations for membership to the EPA Administrator. The EPA's Office of General Counsel provided a legal opinion that the proposed CASAC membership was balanced in the points of view represented for the function CASAC was to perform. The EPA Administrator made the CASAC appointments on August 3, 2015. There is and has always been at least one member from the National Academies on the CASAC. Nominees who were selected for appointment were notified via email on August 3, 2015, and were also sent invitation letters from the Administrator by regular mail. Consistent with agency practice, the public was notified of the membership changes through the updating of the CASAC website on October 5, 2015. Nominees who were not selected for appointment were notified via email on October 6, 2015.

Again, thank you for your letter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions, or your staff may contact Tom Dickerson in our Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [dickerson.tom@epa.gov](mailto:dickerson.tom@epa.gov) or (202) 564-3638.

Sincerely,



Christopher S. Zarba  
Director

EPA Science Advisory Board Staff Office

Enclosures

cc: The Honorable Barbara Boxer  
Ranking Member

## Widecast List of Nominees for the 2015 CASAC Annual Membership

Person	Organization	City	State	Special Expertise Needed	Who Referred	Comment
Adams, Peter	Carnegie Mellon University	Pittsburgh	PA	Environmental engineering	DFO	Interested
Adar, Sara	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	MI	Epidemiology	EPA Employee	Interested
Balmes, John R.	University of California	San Francisco	CA	Exposure assessment	EPA Employee	Interested
Batterman, Stuart	University of Michigan	Ann Arbor	MI	Environmental engineering; Exposure assessment; Risk assessment	EPA Employee	Interested
Byron, Lori	Crow/Northern Cheyenne PHS Hospital	Crow Agency	MT	Ecological and welfare effects	Dr. Sandra Hassink, President of the American Academy of Pediatrics	Interested
Chen, Lung-Chi	NYU School of Medicine	Tuxedo	NY	Toxicology	EPA Employee	Interested
Chow, Judith	Desert Research Institute	Reno	NV	Environmental engineering	DFO	Interested
Corsi, Richard L.	The University of Texas at Austin	Austin	TX	Environmental engineering; Exposure assessment	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Cory-Slechta, Deborah	University of Rochester	Rochester	NY	Toxicology	EPA Employee	Interested
Couli, Brent	Harvard University	Boston	MA	Biostatistics	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Dockery, Douglas	Harvard University	Boston	MA	Exposure assessment; Epidemiology	EPA Employee	Interested
Driscoll, Jr., Charles T.	Syracuse University	Syracuse	NY	Ecological and welfare effects	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Fernandez, Ivan J.	University of Maine	Orono	ME	Ecological and welfare effects	DFO	Interested
Galloway, James	University of Virginia	Charlottesville	VA	Ecological and welfare effects	EPA Employee	Interested
Godleski, John	Harvard University	Boston	MA	Toxicology	EPA Employee	Interested
Harkema, Jack	Michigan State University	East Lansing	MI	Toxicology	DFO	Interested
Harley, Robert A.	University of California	Berkeley	CA	Environmental engineering	Dr. Chris Frey, North Carolina State University	Not Interested
Holloway, Tracey	University of Wisconsin-Madison	Madison	WI	Environmental engineering; Exposure assessment	EPA Employee	Interested
Honeycutt, Michael	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality	Austin	TX	Exposure assessment; Biostatistics; Toxicology; Epidemiology; Risk assessment	Clint Woods, Association of Air Pollution Control Agencies	Interested
Kleinman, Michael T.	University of California, Irvine	Irvine	CA	Exposure assessment; Toxicology	Self	Interested
Koutrakis, Petros	Harvard University	Boston	MA	Exposure assessment	EPA Employee	Interested
Levy, Jonathan	Boston University School of Public Health	Boston	MA	Epidemiology; Risk assessment	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Marshall, Julian	University of Minnesota	Minneapolis	MN	Environmental engineering	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Morris, John	University of Connecticut	Storrs	CT	Toxicology	Self	Interested
Muholland, James	Georgia Institute of Technology	Atlanta	GA	Environmental engineering	EPA Employee	Interested
Peel, Jennifer	Colorado State University	Fort Collins	CO	Epidemiology	DFO	Interested
Peng, Roger	John Hopkins University	Baltimore	MD	Biostatistics; Epidemiology	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Pinkerton, Kent	University of California at Davis	Davis	CA	Toxicology	EPA Employee	Interested
Rajagopalan, Sanjay	University of Maryland	College Park	MD	Toxicology	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Sarnat, Jeremy	Emory University	Atlanta	GA	Exposure assessment; Epidemiology	EPA Employee	Interested
Schauer, James Jay	University of Wisconsin - Madison	Madison	WI	Environmental engineering	EPA Employee	Interested
Sheppard, Elizabeth A. (Lianne)	University of Washington	Seattle	WA	Exposure assessment; Biostatistics	EPA Employee	Interested
Shindell, Drew	Duke University	Durham	NC	Environmental engineering	EPA Employee	Interested

### Widecast List of Nominees for the 2015 CASAC Annual Membership

Person	Organization	City	State	Special Expertise Needed	Who Referred	Comment
Sioutas, Constantinos	University of Southern California	Los Angeles	CA	Environmental engineering	EPA Employee	Not Interested
Wyzga, Ronald	Electric Power Research Institute	Palo Alto	CA	Biostatistics; Risk assessment	DFO	Interested
Yakubu, Momoh	Texas Southern University	Houston	TX	Toxicology	self	Interested

**From:** [Adrian Shelley](#)  
**To:** [Yeow, Aaron](#)  
**Cc:** [neil.carman@sierraclub.org](#); [ecraft@cdf.org](#); [Ilan Levin](#); [Luke Metzger](#); [Jim Schermbeck](#); [Robin Schneider](#)  
**Subject:** Comment on CASAC Nominations  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 6:46:46 PM  
**Attachments:** [CASAC Nominations Comment.pdf](#)

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Mr. Yeow,

Please find attached comments on the Invitation for Public Comment on the List of Candidates For the Environmental Protection Agency's Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee. We are writing to oppose the nomination of TCEQ Toxicologist Michael Honeycutt. Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss further. We appreciate the opportunity to comment.

Thank you,



**Adrian Shelley**

Executive Director, Air Alliance Houston

[adrian@airalliancehouston.org](mailto:adrian@airalliancehouston.org)

www.airalliancehouston.org | 281.414.7444 | Houston, TX 77002

**From:** Pepper Henryon  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Letter of Reference for Lori Byron for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 10, 2015 9:56:12 AM

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June 9, 2015

EPA Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee

RE: Lori Byron, MD, FAAP

Dear U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Science Advisory Board ,

It is with great pleasure that I nominate Dr. Lori Byron to fill a vacancy on the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee. I have worked with Dr. Byron through the Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and most recently on the Legislative Subcommittee for our chapter, for the past 10 years.

Dr. Byron has been a wonderful advocate for the children in Montana including the Native American children. She is highly motivated and a forward thinker. She has the practical knowledge of practicing medicine in a rural area and with minorities. Her background and knowledge would be a great asset to the committee. She has a special interest in environmental health and has worked on the Crow Indian Reservation to identify factors in the environment that contributes to the poor health of the Native Americans.

I have found that Dr. Byron meets her obligations deadlines without any reminders. The work she produces is first rate. She is a very dependable colleague. In addition, she is collegial and easy to get along with. She is able to communicate with those who disagree with her in a civil and productive manner. I have found these are very important attributes to have while working on our chapter's legislative subcommittee.

I have truly enjoyed having Dr. Byron as a colleague. She has been an asset to the Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics as well as the children of our state, and I believe would be a tremendous asset to the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee. I ask that you give her application your utmost consideration.

Sincerely,

Pepper Henryon, MD, FAAP

Pepper Henryon, MD, FAAP

President, Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics

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Pepper Henryon, MD, FAAP

President, Montana Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics  
Pediatrician

Bozeman Deaconess Health Group Pediatrics

935 Highland Blvd, Ste 2200

Bozeman, MT 59715

**From:** Carden Johnston  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee Nomination Support Letter  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 2:56:06 PM  
**Attachments:** lori bryon.docx  
lori bryon.docx

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Mr. Yeow,

Attached and embedded is a strong letter of support for Dr. Lori Bryon. I am pleased to contribute to the process as I firmly believe the Scientific Advisory Committee would benefit from her membership.

Carden Johnston, MD, FAAP, FRCP (London)

CJohnston@aap.net

2900 Redmont Park Circle #400

Birmingham, AL 35205-2155

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mobile

*Exp 6*

Birmingham, AL 35205

June 9, 2015

Aaron Yeow

Designated Federal Officer

Scientific Advisory Board Staff Office

Environmental Protection Agency

Re: Federal Register Notice on April 2, 2015 (80 FR 17743-17744)

To Whom It May Concern:

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Dr. Lori Byron, a strong candidate for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee, will bring a perspective to the Committee of level headed realistic on the ground expertise. Having had the pleasure of knowing and following the career of this dedicated committed pediatrician for decades, I can assure the selection committee that she will bring logical and critical comments to the discussion. Her co-members will learn to respect her thoughts and ideas.

She is devoting her energies enthusiastically to the processes of obtaining clean air as she feels that is one of, if not the most, critical issues of the world. The impact that unclean air will have on the citizens of the world, including the native Americans in rural states will lead to crippling diseases, of which she is extremely familiar.

With her experience of managing pulmonary and other diseases brought on by unclean air, she will bring a unique important voice to the table that needs to be represented. She lives the fact that treating the diseases caused by contaminates complicates life style, development of the child in critical stages and is less beneficial than prevention by removing the offending chemicals and particles.

I strongly urge the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee selection group to accept Dr. Byron as a member. The Committee will not be disappointed.

Sincerely,

Carden Johnston, MD, FAAP, FRCP

Past President

American Academy of Pediatrics

**From:** Lance Chilton  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Recommendation of Lori Byron MD to EPA Scientific Advisory Board  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 09, 2015 12:14:48 AM  
**Attachments:** Byron Lori rec for EPA.docx

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Mr. Yeow,

Please find attached my strong recommendation of Lori Byron MD to be a member of the Scientific Advisory Board of the EPA.

Lance Chilton, MD  
Professor of Pediatrics  
University of New Mexico School of Medicine

**From:** Davis, Matthew  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Cc:** Foos, Brenda  
**Subject:** Children's health input on CASAC candidates being considered  
**Date:** Monday, June 08, 2015 4:14:52 PM

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Aaron,

Good to see you last week at the CASAC NO2 NAAQS meeting, and I hope you're doing well today! I'm getting in touch to offer input on the children's health expertise of a few candidates being considered for appointment to the CASAC.

Of the candidates being considered for appointment, John Balmes, Stuart Batterman, Lori Byron, Deborah Cory-Slechta, Kent Pinkerton, and Jeremy Sarnat have particular expertise, past research, or experience relevant to children's environmental health, as I've outlined briefly here. Dr. John Balmes has the medical training and research background of particular relevance to children's respiratory issues, namely lung function growth and the development and exacerbation of asthma. Dr. Stuart Batterman's efforts to improve exposure assessment have helped epidemiologic investigations of children's health effects associated with air pollution. Dr. Lori Byron has done extensive health work and outreach as a pediatrician in tribal communities. Dr. Deborah Cory-Slechta has conducted extensive research into air pollution, other environmental contaminants, and neurodevelopment, which largely focuses occurs in early childhood lifestages. Dr. Kent Pinkerton's research using animal models helps answer the question of how various air pollutants affect lung development and growth, which is only relevant in children since the lungs develop and grow up until age 18 or 20. Dr. Jeremy Sarnat's epidemiologic research has explored a wide range of health effects from air pollution in sensitive groups, including children.

I hope you will consider the importance of children's health expertise on the CASAC when you are proposing members to the Administrator for selection, and weigh these candidates appropriately. Thank you for the opportunity to comment, and feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Thanks,  
Matthew

Matthew H. Davis  
Health Scientist  
Office of Children's Health Protection  
Office of the Administrator, U.S. EPA  
1301 Constitution Ave NW, MC 1107T  
Washington, DC 20460  
(202) 564-1267

**From:** Marian Kummer  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Dr. Lori Byron  
**Date:** Friday, June 05, 2015 5:40:10 PM

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To whom it concerns,

I would like to urge you to accept the nomination of Dr. Lori Byron for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee. I have known Dr. Byron for over 20 years. We are both pediatricians. She has always had a passion for the environment. She has been active with the coal burning plants in Montana for years. She is involved in Al Gore's climate change initiative. She home schooled her children and was always doing scientific projects about our local water and air.

Dr. Byron is very intelligent and able to look at an issue critically. She is an excellent physician. She serves a very difficult population in our state. She has also done work in Haiti. She would be able to be a knowledgeable advocate for children on the committee.

Dr. Byron is very concerned about our environment. She would work very hard on the committee and try to see all aspects of a problem. She would be an excellent addition to the committee.

Please accept her nomination.  
sincerely,

Marian Kummer MD

**From:** Mary Anne Guggenheim  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee nomination/recommendation  
**Date:** Friday, June 05, 2015 5:12:10 PM

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I am pleased to have the opportunity to endorse the nomination by the American Academy of Pediatrics of Dr. Lori Byron for the EPA Scientific Advisory Committee. I have known Dr. Byron since the early 1980s : she as a practicing pediatrician in MT and I as a consultant pediatric neurology physician in Montana. Dr. Byron has worked tirelessly for her patients, seems to often be one step ahead of others in her position re new knowledge in medicine, and in recent years has taken an active role in political advocacy here in Montana. Based on conversations I have had with her over the past several years I know that she has become a strong advocate for sensible and healthy environmental policies and has taken it upon herself to educate herself in this arena beyond her general medical knowledge. In fact, just next week she is giving a presentation at Carroll College (in Helena, MT) regarding medical and other impacts of climate change. She is conscientious, thoughtful, and will be an excellent member of the Scientific Advisory Committee, if selected. I hope that you do appoint her; she will help make government work.

Mary Anne Guggenheim, M.D.

Helena, MT, 59601

Distinguished Clinical Professor, Department of Pediatrics, University of Colorado School of Medicine  
Member and Past President of the Montana Board of Medical Examiners (state medical board)  
Former Representative in the Montana State Legislature

**From:** ROBERT S. WILSON  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** Dr. Lori Byron, nominee for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee.  
**Date:** Friday, June 05, 2015 3:12:37 PM

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Hello,

Dr. Lori Byron has been nominated by the Academy of Pediatrics for the Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee. I have known and worked closely with Dr. Byron for 25 years. She is devoted, hard-working, highly intelligent and ethically sound. She has remarkably strong commitments to both human health and environmental protection. She is a team player and a joy to work with.

I highly recommend her for this post.

Sincerely,

Robert Wilson, MD  
Hardin, Montana

**From:** Karen Abrams  
**To:** Yeow, Aaron  
**Subject:** nominations for CASAC  
**Date:** Thursday, June 04, 2015 10:45:57 AM

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Dear Aaron,

I would like to recommend Dr. Lori Byron for this position. Dr. Byron has worked tirelessly on behalf of others during her entire medical career at Crow in Montana. She has also been an advocate for the environment her entire life. She and her husband have attended international conferences on the environment at their own expense.

Dr. Byron is a very intelligent, passionate advocate for the environment. She would be a great addition to CASAC.

Sincerely,  
Dr Karen Abrams